

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

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COUNTRY USSR (Arctic)

REPORT

SUBJECT Naval and Air Sightings, Port
Facilities, Loran Stations, New
Bridge, and Miscellaneous Observations
in the Arkhangelsk Area

DATE DISTR.

15 March 1957 AUG RECD

NO. PAGES

2

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REFERENCES

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SURE ATTACHED

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FAST ROUTE

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE. 19 AUG 1957

- Attachment No. 1 A seven-page report and seven sketches on the port of Arkhangelsk, sightings of Soviet naval vessels and aircraft, and a list of Loran stations. The naval vessels sighted include surface vessels [redacted] and a submarine [redacted]. The list of Loran stations includes the dates and GMT of interception, call signs, geographical positions, transmitting frequencies, and type of transmission. [redacted] 25X1
- Attachment No. 2 A three-page report and a sketch primarily dealing with Sawmill No. 2 at Arkhangelsk. [redacted] 25X1
- Attachment No. 3 A one-page report describing helicopters observed flying in the direction of Keg Ostrov. [redacted] 25X1
- Attachment No. 4 A one-page report describing Soviet naval vessels encountered in the Kola Inlet. Destroyer [redacted] 25X1
- Attachment No. 5 A three-page report and three sketches describing naval and merchant vessels observed at Solombala, harbor depths along the quay at Sawmill No. 3, and a polyclinic in Arkhangelsk. [redacted] 25X1

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	EV	X	AIR	X	FBI	AEC	ORR/EVI	X
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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

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Attachment No. 6

A one-page report telling of the arrival of a troop transport in Arkhangelsk on 26 October 1956, construction of five or six twin-screw vessels at Solombala, and the use of the new bridge between Solombala and Arkhangelsk.

Attachment No. 7

A two-page report describing vessel the new bridge between Solombala and Arkhangelsk, and workers' morale at Arkhangelsk.

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Attachment No. 8

A two-page report and three sketches describing Soviet naval vessels in the Kola Inlet, air activity at Arkhangelsk, and "Console" / Radar Navigating Beacon located.

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Attachment No. 9

A one-page report describing river passenger boats observed at Arkhangelsk, air activity in the vicinity of the airfield at Keg Ostrov, and ice conditions in the Dvina River.

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Information From the Soviet Union.Area: ARCHANGEL.

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1. NAVY:

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[redacted] 2 destroyers were observed astern, and one large cruiser was observed ahead. One of the destroyers was much larger than the other. Each vessel had 2 funnels and a typical direction finder on the bridge. All vessels were headed toward shore.

[redacted] 2 destroyers were observed off shore; 2 destroyers were observed astern, and a large cruiser ahead. The 2 destroyers off shore were following a southeasterly course. The cruiser had 2 funnels; the smoke hood on the after funnel was more sharply raked than that of the forward funnel. There were masts at the forward edge of both funnels.

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[redacted] 3 destroyers were observed toward the south; they were proceeding on a southeasterly course. The 2 destroyers astern were no longer visible. The cruiser was on a course bearing on the entrance to KOLA FJORD. One destroyer broke away and proceeded north toward us. Two of the destroyers had direction finders, tripod mast, and 2 funnels. The third was somewhat smaller with direction finder, 2 funnels, but no tripod mast.

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[redacted] The destroyer was proceeding on a northwesterly course at an approximate speed of 10 - 12 knots; later it changed

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Att [redacted]
to a southeasterly course with varying speed; it stopped several times.

Description: [redacted] Baked bow; one gun on the forward deck; bridge with direction finder; break from the forecastle; funnel; tripod mast; torpedo tube; 2 gunmounts on the afterdeck; mine rails; transom stern. (See sketch No 1.)

25X1

[redacted] Destroyer [redacted] southbound.

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[redacted] The cruiser was seen toward shore near KILDIN ISLAND. (See sketches 2 a - c.)

a

25X1

[redacted] A submarine was observed lying at rest [redacted] Because of the darkness, no details could be observed. The submarine played a searchlight [redacted]

25X1

[redacted] Two destroyers were observed sailing on a northerly course, directly off shore.

Description: They were alike. High foreparts; 2 guns on the forward deck; tripod mast, one funnel, torpedo tube on the after deck. (See sketch 3.)

0742 hours, 14 September. Position of ZIMNYEGORSKI POINT, position: 65 degrees, 30 minutes North by 39 degrees, 50 minutes East. A minesweeper was observed, northbound..

Description: [redacted] 2 guns on the forward deck; bridge with direction finder; break from the forecastle; pole mast; funnel with 2 red bands; 2 guns on the afterdeck. (See sketch 4.)

25X1

[redacted] A 3-masted training ship observed on a northbound course. Proceeding under power; no sails up. [redacted]

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25X1

[redacted] 25X1
[redacted] position off KERETZ POINT. Three small naval ves- 25X1
sels observed lying close in to shore. At [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] naval vessels were 25X1
observed at SOLOMBALA: [redacted]

[redacted] All of these were lying at the quay,

At Quay B85 [redacted]

[redacted] 2 A-vessels were tugboats.

2. TANKERS.

[redacted] a tanker was observed off 25X1
KILDIN ISLAND on a course bearing on KOLA FJORD. The tanker was
loaded and probably had a deadweight tonnage of 8,000 - 10,000,
but the distance was too great for detailed observations.

At 1000 hours GMT on 24 September, a small tanker was lying
at anchor in the ARCHANGEL roadstead. [redacted] tonnage 25X1
about 700 - 1,000 tons in ballast.

[redacted] two 10,000-ton, loaded 25X1
tankers were observed directly off MURMANSK, inbound.

3. AIRCRAFT:

[redacted] the following planes were 25X1
observed at KYEGOSTROV airfield: 7 large, twin-engined, low-winged,
aluminum-painted transport planes; 2 exactly similar, but green-
painted planes; 11 smaller, single-engined, low-winged, green-
painted planes; a couple of old bi-planes.

4. HARBOR:

There are 5 cranes in PORT EKONOMIA. Two old; 2 recently mounted;
and one being mounted. (Observed from the main stream of the DVINA).

[redacted] 25X1

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25X1

A sketch of the city bridge is enclosed. It has not yet
been opened to traffic.

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REPORT ON LORAN STATIONS.

Att

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Call Signal for Transmit- ting Station	Receiving Station	Frequency (Wave Length)	Transmission
KN	N 70°08' E 32°07'		59 dots, 1 dash
RB			51 dots, 9 dashes
?	N 69°37' E 33°53'		49 dots, 17 dashes
KN	N 68°13' E 39°50'	272	20 dots, 40 dashes
RB		362	48 dashes, 12 dots
KN	N 68°12' E 39°54' true bearing: E ca. 67°		22 dots, 38 dashes
KN	N 68°08' E 40°06'		26 dots, 34 dashes
RB			49 dashes, 11 dots
KN	N 68°06' E 40°11'		29 dots, 31 dashes
KN	N 68°03½' E 40°18'		34 dots, 26 dashes
KN			Stop, long dashes
RB			50 dashes, 10 dots
RB			Stop
KN			Started up again, sending irregular, faint, long dashes
KN	N 67°35' E 41°15'		60 dashes ?
KN			Stopped
RB	N 67°34' E 41°16'		47 dashes, 13 dots
KN	N 67°35' E 41°15'		12 dots, 48 dashes

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	RB	N 67°35' E 41°15'	All	48 dashes, 12 dots	
	KN			42 dots, 18 dashes	
	RB	N 67°17' E 41°27'		46 dashes, 14 dots	
	KN	Archangel Lightship	272	31 dashes, 20 dots	
	KN	Ship's course 331; speed 8 knots		28 dashes, 32 dots	
	KN	Ship's course 331; speed 8 knots		27 dashes, 33 dots; bearing ca. 25°	
	KN	N 65°34' E 39°28'		56 dots, 4 dashes; bearing ca. 25°	
	RB	N 67°32' E 41°18'	362	49 dashes, 11 dots; Station repeated the message 3 times; then a long tone and stop.	
	KN			Long tone, no signal.	
	KN			46 dashes, 14 dots.	25X1
	RD			49 dashes, 11 dots.	
		N 67°44' E 41°04'			
	KN			45 dashes, 15 dots	
	KN			39 dashes, 21 dots	
	RB	N 67°43'05" E 41°03'		59 dashes, 11 dots (?)	
	KN			40 dots, 20 dashes	
	RB	N 67°59' (uncertain) E 40°27'		48 dashes, 12 dots	
	KN	N 68°02' E 40°20'		35 dots, 25 dashes	
	RB			50 dashes, 10 dots	
	KN			32 dots, 28 dashes	
	KN	N 68°12' E 39°55'		17 dots, 42 dashes	
	RB			51 dashes, 9 dots	

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KN	N 68°54'	28 dots, 32 dashes
	E 37°40'	
RB		50 dashes, 10 dots
RB	N 69°25'	41 dashes, 19 dots
	E 35°33'	
KN		49 dots, 11 dashes
RB		42 dashes, 18 dots
RB	N 69°48'	10 dots, 50 dashes
KN	E 33°36'	54 dots, 6 dashes
KN	N 70°11'	5 dashes, 55 dots
	E 32°09'	
RB	N 70°12'	33 dashes, 27 dots
	E 32°03'	
RB		23 dashes, 37 dots
		14 dashes, 46 dots

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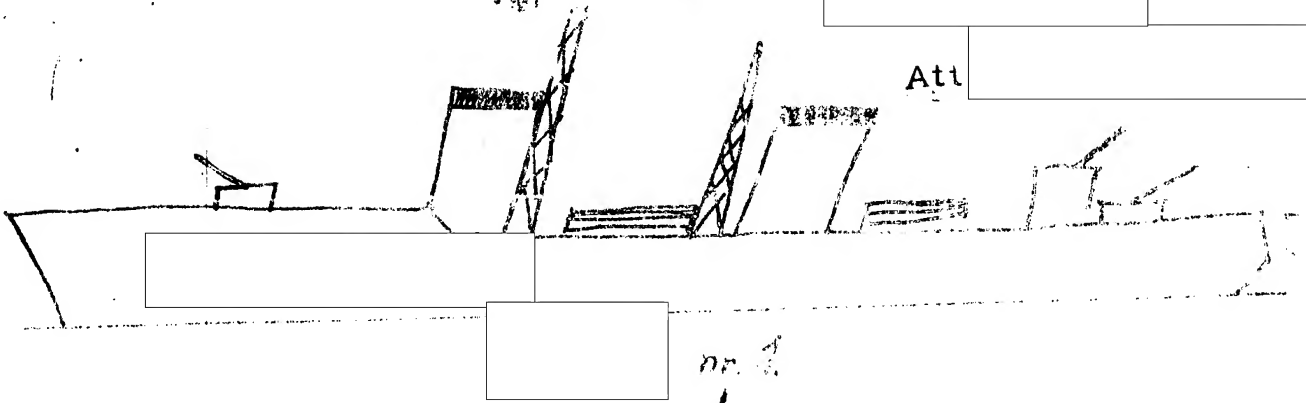
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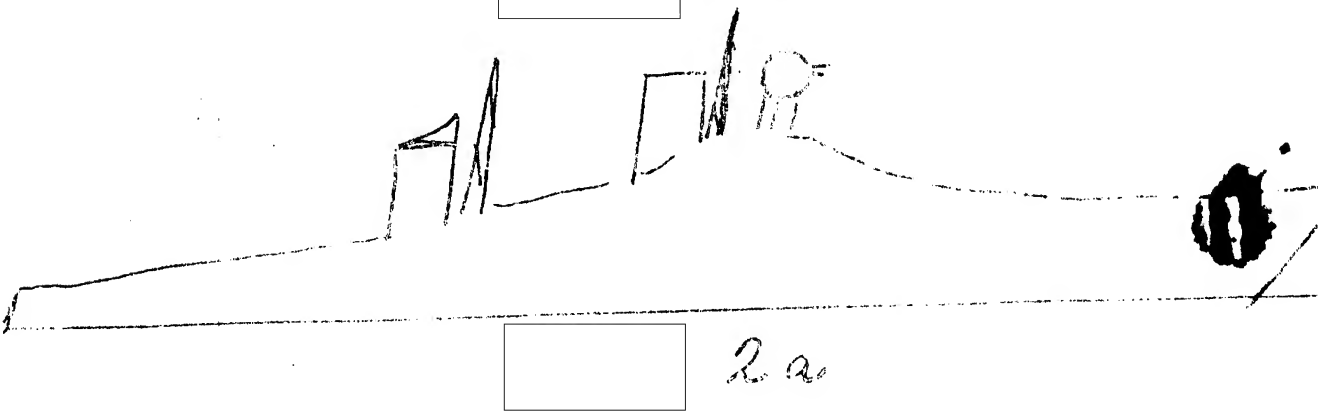
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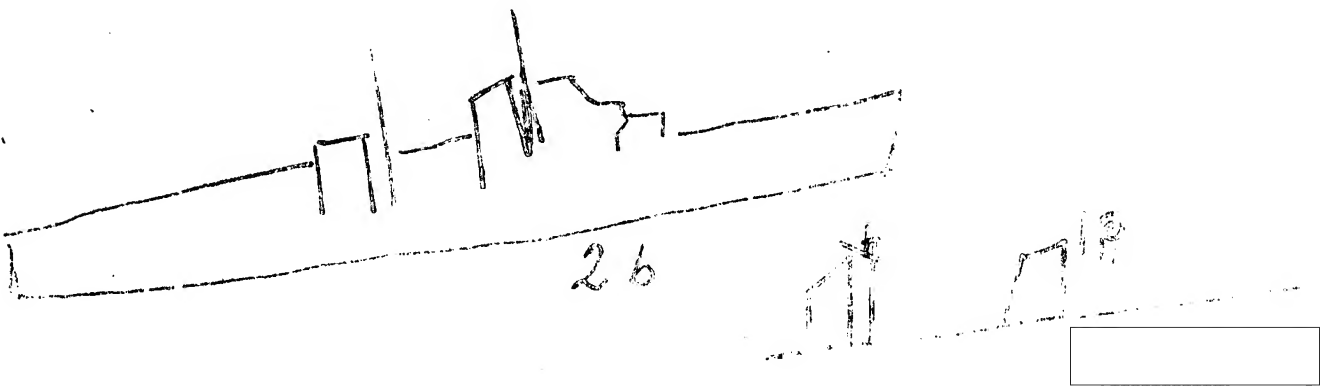
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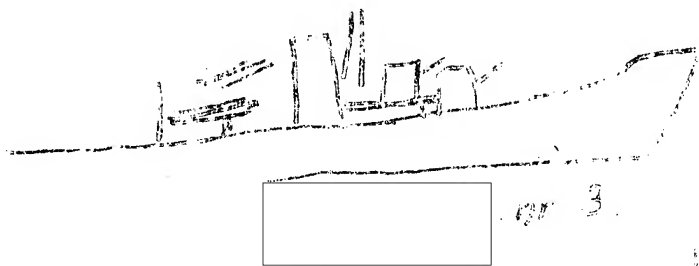
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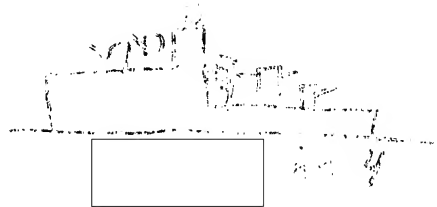
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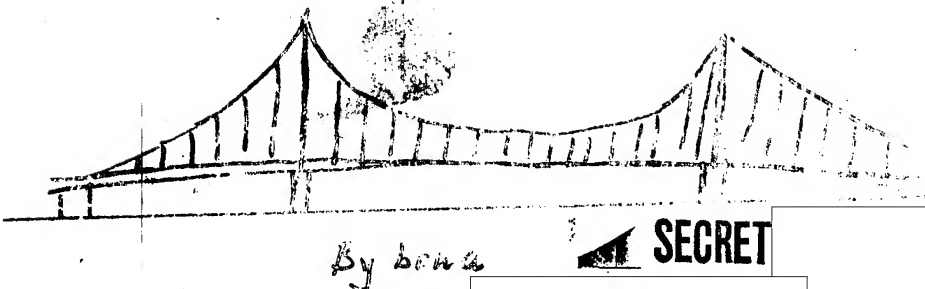
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nr. 4



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Information From the Soviet Union.

Area: ARCHANGEL

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1. NAVY:

The "usual" vessels were observed at SOLOMBALA.

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2. SAWMILL NO 2.

Sawmill No 2 is located opposite ARCHANGEL.

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it is marked on the German city chart, probably point 121. It has an ordinary, good lumber quay. At present, the quay can accommodate only one boat, but it is being extended. Two quay berths are to be constructed there. The vessel ties up at iron posts set in blocks of cement.

It is difficult to put in at the quay. Entrance is made partly by following range markers on shore and partly by following a row of buoys. When the bow reaches the quay, the anchor is cast, and the current swings the craft in to the quay.

Depth along the quay was given as 22 feet

25X1

Opposite the lumber quay, and in direct connection with it, there is a smaller quay, which is used by lighters.

The sawmill itself is new; it has only been in use for about a year. there must have been another sawmill there before.

25X1

From the river, the logs are taken on a chain conveyer up to a large dam, constructed of lumber, on a level with the sawmill and about 20 feet above the surface of the river. From this dam, canals lead directly in to the saws. The building is 70 - 80 meters long and lies perpendicular to the edge of the quay. It has masonry walls,

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Att [REDACTED]

25X1

and it has a curved wooden roof. The boards are sorted north of the sawmill. At the southern end, saw dust is transported on a conveyor belt to a small silo.

A little west of the saw, there is a masonry drying-hall. In this drier, there are 4 compartments on each side. The lumber is brought in on railcars which hold 5 standards each. It was said that the lumber was kept in the drier for 3 days.

West of the drying hall, there is a large planing shop, which lies parallel to the sawmill building. The planing shop is about 50 meters long and of the same construction as the sawmill building. Source was inside the planing hall. There are 4 rows of machines running the length of the building. Among the machines, Source noticed especially several small cross-cut saws and several planers, but there may also have been other special machines in the building. It appeared that only small box-boards were being turned out in the planing shop. They were made from broken and other discarded boards, which were cut ^{to} the proper length on the cross-cut saws. Only women were employed in the building. The chips were carried out from the planing shop in small cars to a small circular silo, and from there they were driven away with horse and wagon.

There are railway tracks in the sawmill area. In the eastern part of the area, they run parallel to the quay; in the western part, they run perpendicular to it. [REDACTED] these 2 tracks

25X1

are connected [REDACTED] The only traffic he saw on the tracks was cars loading saw chips from the silo below the sawmill. When these cars had been filled, they were pulled away toward the west. Usually, there were 5 cars to a train, pulled by a small diesel engine.

In the western part of the sawmill area, there is an office building in the shape of an angle. The entrance is at the vertex of the angle. The entrance leads into a hall. One wing consists

25X1

25X1

[REDACTED]
SECRET Att [REDACTED]

of 3 offices connected by doors (i. e., without a corridor). The outer office is used by plant foremen; the middle one by two ladies; and the inner one by the sawmill dispatcher. In the other wing, there are probably recreation rooms for the workers.

Some grading work was being done in the northwestern part of the sawmill area. The workers were quite young boys, who were dressed in a kind of uniform, consisting of cover-alls and a uniform cap with special insignia. [REDACTED] these boys were military recruits.

25X1

[REDACTED] this new sawmill has 7 "frames", and it cuts only pine (red-wood).

25X1

[REDACTED] the new sawmill at No 12 had 9 "frames".

25X1

3. REPAIR SHOP FOR FISHING VESSELS.

Below Sawmill No 2, probably at point 207, there is a repair shop which is used by fishing vessels. There was no slip^{-way} there, but [REDACTED] a medium-sized trawler which had been hauled up on land, and [REDACTED] some welding was being done on trawlers which were lying at the quay there. There were no cranes at this repair shop, nor any covered ways.

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4. FACTORY.

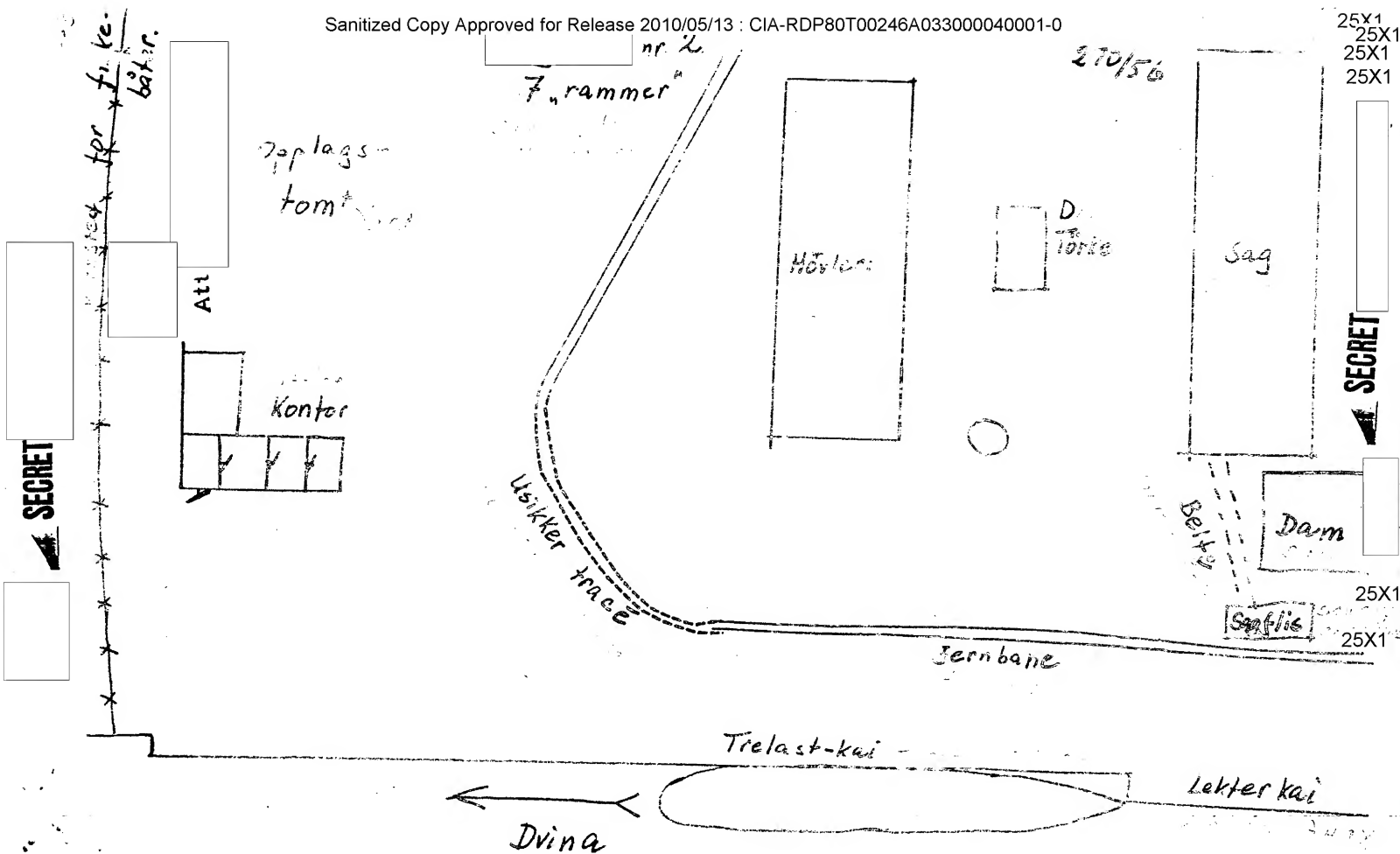
About 4 miles above Sawmill No 2, and on the same side of the river (?), there is a large factory. At any rate, there are 2 large chimneys, out of which smoke pours day and night. It was reported that this was a cellulose factory. [REDACTED]

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5. DVINA.

It was reported that the side-wheeler which was used for towing lumber went up the Dvina to within 8 kilometers of ARCHANGEL.

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25X1

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Information From the Soviet Union.

Area: ARCHANGEL.

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1. NAVY:

There were very few vessels at SOLOMBALA, and those which lay there were not seen under way at any time.

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2. AIRCRAFT:

6 helicopters came flying up along the DVINA and disappeared in the direction of KYEGO KYEGOSTROV airfield.

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25X1

Description: A rotor , plus a small anti-torque propeller aft, fusilage with windows forward, compact tail section, painted a dark color. The size of the helicopters was approximately the same as that used by SABENA on its regular runs.

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Information on the USSR,

Area: Arkhangelsk

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1. Navy

[redacted] a submarine was observed proceeding on a northerly course between Tri Ostrova and Intzi Point (latitude about 66° 10' N). No detailed observations made.

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[redacted] three naval vessels lay at anchor about four miles [redacted] north of Dyina lightship. One of these was a "destroyer", the other two "frigates". [redacted] one of the "frigates" proceeded to the lightship and returned, accompanied by a tug towing a gunnery target. All vessels then proceeded northward.

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Description of the "destroyer": [redacted]

25X1

[redacted] length about 400 feet, high foredeck with downward break amidships, one large and ^{one} small funnel. The vessel carried three white lanterns, one forward, one aft, and one high amidship.

25X1

Description of the "frigates": The two vessels were alike. Length about 300 feet, one funnel.

Many small naval vessels and two submarines lay at Solombala. No detailed observations made.

2. [redacted] the Soviet cargo vessel Yusuy Bug, about 4,000 to 5,000 tons deadweight, left the harbor. The vessel was deep in the water, and the deck cargo consisted of tanks and other vehicles covered with tarpaulins. The vessel is Fredrikstad rigged.

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Att [redacted]

Information on the USSR,

Area: Arkhangelsk

[redacted]

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1. Navy

[redacted] the following naval vessels were
observed lying along the quay in Solombala: [redacted]

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[redacted]

25X1

[redacted] two submarines [redacted]

Description [redacted] Length 150 to 200 feet, flush decks, gun
in shield, bridge, funnel, bridge [sic], short signal mast, funnel, two
guns in shields. (See sketch).

Description [redacted] Somewhat longer [redacted] one funnel,
break from the foredeck amidships, much special equipment on deck,
probably intended for mine sweeping. (See sketch).

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25X1

Description [redacted] Somewhat shorter [redacted] flush deck
with sheer, round bows, slightly curved stern. (See sketch).

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The submarines are plainly not being cut up, as was previously
assumed. The last time they were observed, one of them had a large whole
in the deck aft of the conning tower. This time the hole had been covered.

2. Merchant vessels.

At the civilian shipyard in Solombala, a Liberty ship was observed
in the floating dock which lay in the shipyard bay. The stern of the
Liberty ship extended far beyond the dock and was not clear of the
water, [redacted] the lifting capacity of the
floating dock was insufficient [redacted]

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[redacted]

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3. Aircraft

Att [REDACTED]

On 17 October at about 1020 GMT, a civilian aircraft took off from Kyegostrov airfield in a northerly direction. Immediately after the takeoff, the plane turned to port [REDACTED]

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Description: Midwing or low wing plane, two piston engines, painted a light grey, but not with aluminum paint.

4. The Harbor

At Sawmill No 3, the following depths were sounded at the uppermost end of the quay, about 4.5 meters from the quay edge: 17 feet, 18 feet, and 16 feet. [REDACTED]

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5. Polyclinic

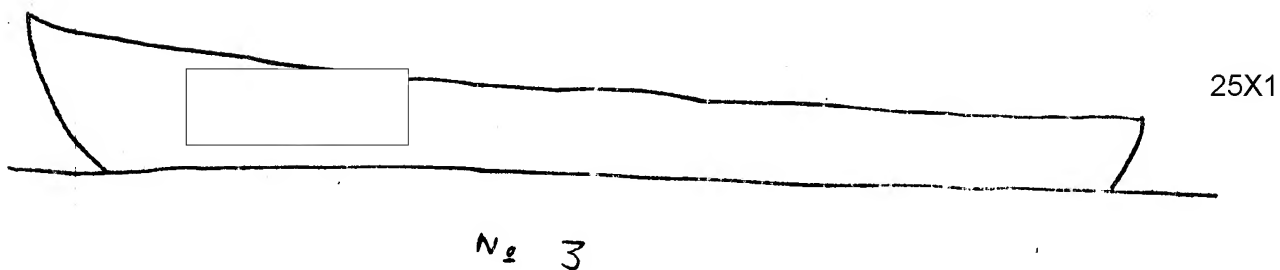
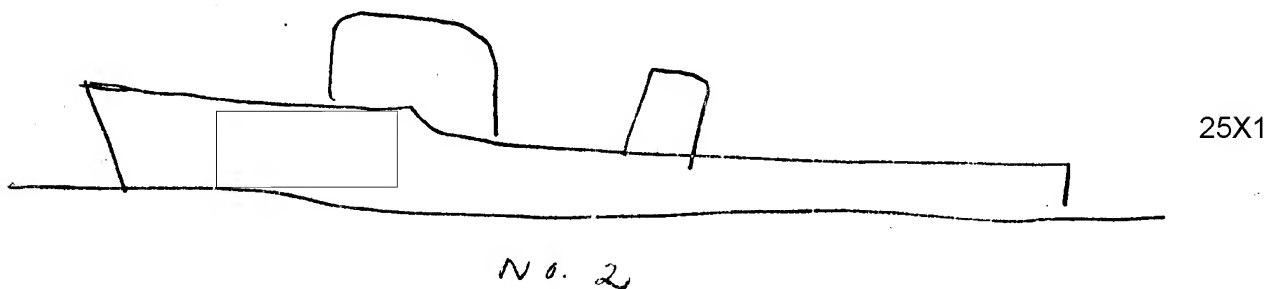
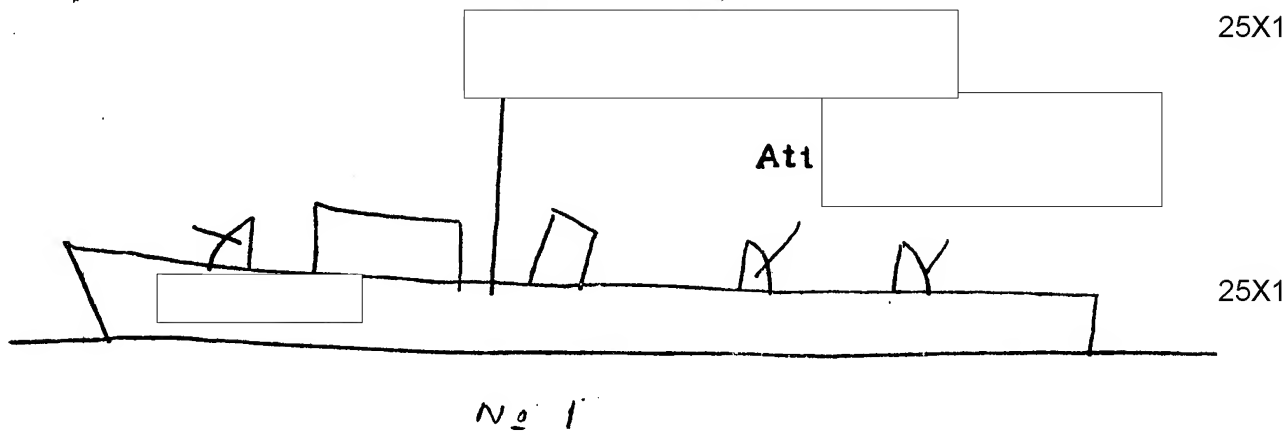
In the city's main street, a few hundred meters east of the seamen's club, there is a polyclinic, housed in an old masonry building of at least three stories.

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[REDACTED]

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Information on the USSR.

[REDACTED]

Area: Arkhangelsk

[REDACTED]

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1. Passenger vessel

[REDACTED]

a passenger vessel of troop transport

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arrived in Arkhangelsk. Soldiers lined the rail of the vessel

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] no civilians aboard. The vessel was of about the

25X1

same type as the coastal steamers [REDACTED] but with a somewhat higher
superstructure. The vessel left Arkhangelsk [REDACTED]

25X1

2. Shipyard

Five or six twin screw steel vessels are under construction in
the shipyard located on the right bank of the Dvina below Solombala.

3. The City Bridge

The streetcars from the sawmills north of Solombala now go all the
way in to Arkhangelsk, crossing the new city bridge.

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[REDACTED]

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Information on the USSR,**Att****Area: Arkhangelsk**

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1. Navy

[redacted] a naval vessel was observed sailing down the Dvina.

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Description: [redacted]

Length about 250 feet, one funnel, break from foredeck at the bridge, one gun of about 4" caliber on foredeck, one antiaircraft gun on a raised structure aft, which resembled a funnel [sic].

2. The City Bridge

Streetcars now run between Solombala and Arkhangelsk over the new city bridge. There are two streetcar tracks on the bridge with lanes for automobiles on either side. There are sidewalks on both sides of the bridge, built outside the piers and cables. The grade up to the bridge is quite steep on the Solombala side, estimated at 1 to 12. The grade is much less steep on the Arkhangelsk side. On the Arkhangelsk side there is a traffic circle at the approach to the bridge.

3. Miscellaneous

The morale of the workers in Arkhangelsk has deteriorated to a considerable degree. One day, the longshoremen refused to work because it snowed a little. A new gang was put aboard, but refused to work for a couple of hours. The sawmill lends boots and mittens to the longshoremen.

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Everyone [redacted] complained about the high prices.

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[redacted] 25X1

Information on the USSR,

Att [redacted] 25X1

Area: Arkhangelsk

[redacted] 25X1

1. Navy

[redacted] 25X1

[redacted] two "corvettes" and two submarines were seen about five nautical miles north of Svyatoi Nos.

Description of "corvettes": [redacted] two guns in shields in line forward to aft, bridge with direction finder, tripod mast, one funnel, torpedo tube(s), gun in shield. (Deckline not observed).

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Description of submarines: Length of the conning tower equal to one sixth of the length of the hull, hull forward of the conning tower twice the length of the conning tower. Radar and schnorkel. (Sketch No 1.)

[redacted] a pontoon for a floating crane was seen under tow 10 to 12 nautical miles south of Svyatoi Nos. A "destroyer" followed at some distance. [redacted]

25X1

25X1

[redacted] Somewhat later another tow was seen which must have been a gunnery target with no canvas mounted.

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[redacted] a rather large naval vessel proceeding on a northerly course was seen in position 65°12' N - 39°40' E .

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Description: [redacted] two gun turrets on the foredeck, tall bridge structure with direction finder at the top, break to main deck, tripod mast, forward funnel, tripod mast, aft funnel, two gun turrets on after deck. [redacted]

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[redacted] in position 65°10' N - 39°42' E -- a
 destroyer, and at 1230 GMT, in position 65°03' N - 39°50' E -- a
 destroyer. In both instances the distance was too great for descriptions.
 Both vessels were on northerly courses. (Sketch No. 3).

[redacted] a large gunnery target with radar reflector
 and netting cover was observed near Dvina lightship.

25X1

[redacted] in position 66°00' N - 40°10' E [redacted]

25X1

25X1

[redacted] five vessels which, judging from the lanterns
 carried, must have been destroyers.

2. Aircraft

[redacted] a twin engine seaplane flying on a
 northwesterly course was seen near the quarantine station.

25X1

In Arkhangelsk there was much air activity, both in the daytime and
 at night. No jet aircraft were seen or heard.

3. Console [Radio navigation beacons ?]

KN [redacted] position 67°45' N-41°03' E - 30 dashes,
 30 dots.

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RB [redacted] same position, 22 dashes, 38 dots.

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Otherwise, the stations broadcast only a carrier wave now and then.
 Falling snow and a list, making the bearing finder useless, prevented
 determination of positions [of the stations].

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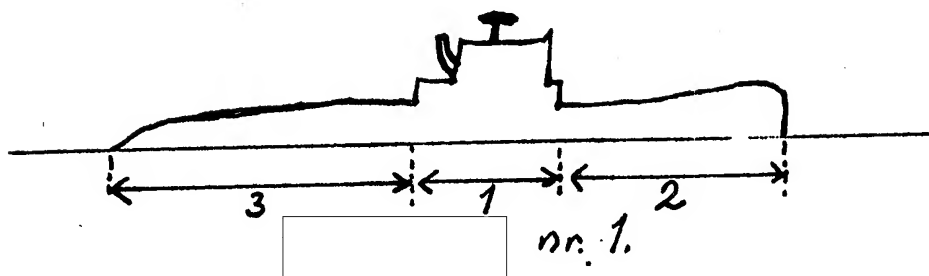
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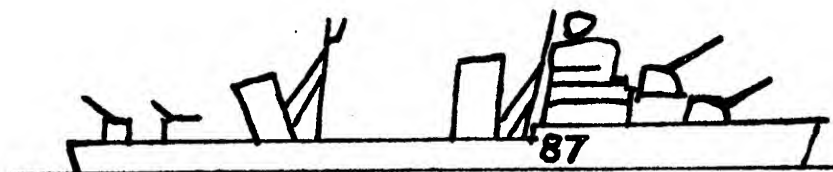
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Information on the USSR,

Att

Area: Arkhangelsk

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1. Navy

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four or five river passenger boats were observed tied up in a basin below the port office, not visible from the sea side.

Description: Length at least 150 feet, several decks with windows above the hull, which was low in the water. The boats looked brand new, and had streamlined shapes.

2. Aircraft

During the stay in port, several jet aircraft with strongly swept-back wings were seen. These aircraft were not seen to land on or take off from the airfield at Kyegostrov. On the other hand, many small planes, probably training planes, were constantly seen landing on or taking off from the ice east of the airfield. The air activity seemed to increase especially after the Suez crisis.

3. Ice conditions

vessel had to have icebreaker assistance to sail out the Dvina. During the stay in port, one could walk across the Dvina on scrap lumber placed on the ice.

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